

To: Allgeier, Steve[Allgeier.Steve@epa.gov]
From: Casillas, Laura
Sent: Sun 1/12/2014 11:12:29 PM
Subject: RE: Region 3 Response to WV Response

Thanks so much!

From: Allgeier, Steve
Sent: Sunday, January 12, 2014 6:12 PM
To: Casillas, Laura
Cc: Kelly, Jack (R3 Phila.); Burns, Francis; Wright, Dave
Subject: RE: Region 3 Response to WV Response

I'm with the Office of Water, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water. However, I work closely with several scientists and engineers in ORD.

From: Casillas, Laura
Sent: Sunday, January 12, 2014 6:10 PM
To: Allgeier, Steve
Cc: Kelly, Jack (R3 Phila.); Burns, Francis; Wright, Dave
Subject: RE: Region 3 Response to WV Response

Thank you very much Steve, that was very helpful. I will pass on to the group, and will add you to our call. I think you will find it helpful.

Are you also under ORD I may have misheard that?

From: Allgeier, Steve
Sent: Sunday, January 12, 2014 5:45 PM
To: Casillas, Laura
Cc: Kelly, Jack (R3 Phila.); Burns, Francis; Wright, Dave
Subject: RE: Region 3 Response to WV Response

Hi Laura,

I'll be glad to help where I can and will participate in the 1100 conference call tomorrow.

Let me provide you with a little bit of information about my background and involvement in response to this incident to date.

I'm an environmental engineer with 20 years experience in the field of drinking water treatment and quality. Since 2001, my focus has been on drinking water security, particularly distribution system water quality and monitoring for contamination incidents.

I became involved in the response to the WV chemical spill on Friday, and my focus thus far has been on researching the contaminant, particularly treatment options, toxicity data (ingestion exposure pathway), and analytical methods suitable for the water matrix. Information on methylcyclohexane methanol is sparse, so we'll likely need to rely on extrapolation from similar compounds and professional judgment.

I haven't been researching flushing options per se, but understand the general process that would be used to design and implement an effective flushing plan. My understanding is that American Water is using their hydraulic model to design a sampling and flushing plan. I'd be glad to consult on development of the plan or review it when ready, but American Water is a well resourced organization and will likely try to handle much of this in-house. I just saw a notice that American Water canceled their request for additional laboratory resources, so I'm assuming that they'll be relying heavily on their central laboratory and any other volunteer labs that have already stepped forward.

If there are specific areas in which I can be of assistance, let me know. So far, it's been unclear to me what role EPA-OW needs to play in the response - it seems that the utility and state primacy agency have stepped up and taken responsibility for coordinating the response on the drinking water distribution side.

Thanks,
Steve

From: Casillas, Laura

Sent: Sunday, January 12, 2014 5:17 PM
To: Allgeier, Steve
Cc: Kelly, Jack (R3 Phila.); Burns, Francis; Wright, Dave
Subject: Region 3 Response to WV Response

Hi Steve,

Thanks for your time, I am sure you are very busy on this response. I am an On-scene coordinator (OSC) working the planning portion of the response.

I apologize for not being familiar with how involved you have been with emergency response so I'll over explain: We've put set up an Environmental Unit (under the incident command structure we use in response) which OSC Jack Kelly is leading. This group is comprised of ERT, our Regional Office of Water, our Emergency Response, ASTSD representatives, our Ft Meade Laboratory, and basically anyone who knows numbers, limits, and sampling. We heard you have been researching the flushing of the water system and otherwise in touch with the response. I'd like to invite you to be a part of our Environmental Unit. We are supporting the field from the Regional Operation Center in Philadelphia. Currently we have two OSCs at the site of the spill ensuring cleanup is conducted. The rest of the folks have been supporting the locals through phone calls, but have otherwise had limited involvement. This call pools our knowledge and was very useful.

The group met today at 0800 and will meet tomorrow at 1100 to discuss needs progress and overall coordination of the most technical aspects of the response as they pertain to EPA.

I will be sending you a invitation. Please call me or Jack Kelly if you have additional questions (Jack has a commitment this evening). Jack's cell number 215-514-6792, mine is below.

We hope to hear you there. All the best,

Laura Casillas, Federal On-Scene Coordinator

Office of Preparedness and Response

Health and Safety Point of Contact

USEPA Region 3, Mail Code 3HS32

1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103

Cell 215-779-4896

Office 215-814-3253

Casillas.Laura@epa.gov